

## Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /005 W

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R 191100Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO USINFO WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8801

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

UNCLAS COTONOU 1370

USIAC

MEDIA REACTION FOR IOR/M, IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION: BENIN POSITION ON WESTERN SAHARA

1. "EHUZU", THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED (AND ONLY) NEWSPAPER OF THE PROPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN, THURSDAY CARRIED A LONG AVYOUNT OF THE LIBYAN AND CUBAN ADDRESSES TO THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. ENTITLED "NUMEROUS DELEGATES DEMAND THE SUPRESSION OF THE RIGHT OF VETO IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL", THE ARTICLE APPEARS TO BE AN AFP (OR OTHER WIRE-SERVICE) ITEM GIVING A FAIRLY STRAIGHT-FORWARD REPORT, BUT ENDING WITH TWO PARAGRAPHS BEARING ALL THE MARKS OF LOCAL EDITORIALIZATION.

2. NOTING THAT THE POLITICAL COMMISSION WORKED UNTIL THREE O'CLOCK TUESDAY MORNING TRYING TO FIND A "FORMULA FOR COMPROMISE ON THE MOST TROUBLING QUESTIONS, NOTABLY THE WESTERN SAHARA QUESTION", THE NEWSPAPER GOES ON: "IT IS MORE PRECISELY THE QUESTION OF FINDING A SYNTHESIS BETWEEN TWO RESOLUTIONS: ONE FAVORABLE TO THE COLONIALIST MOROCCAN THESIS PRESENTED BY SAUDI ARABIA; THE OTHER WHICH REVERTS TO THE ALGERIAN POSITION, AND WHICH WAS REGISTERED BY BENIN, ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE AND BURUNDI".

3. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES, "THE FIRST ABSTAINS, OF COURSE, UNCLASSIFIED

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FROM SPEAKING OF THE SAHARAN PEOPLE, WHEREAS THE SECOND

REAFFIRMS THE "RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE  
OF THE PEOPLE OF WESTERN SAHARA".  
LA SOR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 AUG 1976  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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